

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE

7 JUNE 2022

Title:

APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUPS

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Paul Follows, Leader of the Council

Head of Service: Robin Taylor, Head of Policy and Governance

Key decision: No

Access: Public

1. Purpose and summary

1.1 At its meeting on 19 October 2021, the Council agreed to adopt a protocol for the establishment of Executive Working Groups. This report proposes the establishment of Cost of Living Working Group under that protocol.

2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the Executive agree the establishment of Cost of Living Working Group as set out in paragraph 4.1 below and with the Terms of Reference attached at Annexe 1.

3. Reason for the recommendation

3.1 To establish a working group under the current protocol to investigating the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and make recommendations to the Executive as appropriate.

4. Background

4.1 At its meeting on 19 October 2021, the Council agreed to adopt a protocol for the establishment of Executive Working Groups. In light of the current challenges faced by residents in respect of cost of living, it is proposed that a Cost of Living Working Group be established under the protocol to:

- investigate the cost-of-living crisis to inform members and residents of its aspects and impacts.
- Explore and implement mitigation within our direct remit and lobby those beyond it.
- Coordinate, communicate and expand existing mitigation.
- Maintain oversight of the implementation of any local or national government led schemes.

The proposed Terms of Reference are attached at Annexe 1 to this report.

5. Relationship to the Corporate Strategy and Service Plan

5.1 The recommendations in this report contribute to the Council's commitment to open, democratic and participative governance.

6. Implications of decision

6.1 Resource (Finance, procurement, staffing, IT)

There are no resource implications arising from this report. The proposed Cost of Living Working Group can be serviced within existing resources.

6.2 Risk management

None for the purposes of this report.

6.3 Legal

The Council's Constitution enables the Executive to create and appoint to Executive Working Groups.

6.4 Equality, diversity and inclusion

There are no direct equality, diversity or inclusion implications in this report. Equality impact assessments are carried out when necessary across the council to ensure service delivery meets the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010.

6.5 Climate emergency declaration

There are no implications for the council's environmental and sustainability objectives arising from this report.

7. Consultation and engagement

7.1 None for the purposes of this report.

8. Other options considered

8.1 The Executive could choose not to establish a working group. However, it is felt that due to the current financial pressures on residents, that establishing a working group which would make recommendations to the Executive is the most efficient and effective approach.

9. Governance journey

9.1 This will be reported to a meeting of the Executive on 7 June 2022 for approval.

Annexes:

Annexe 1 – Cost of Living Working Group Terms of Reference

Background Papers

There no background papers, as defined by Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972).

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